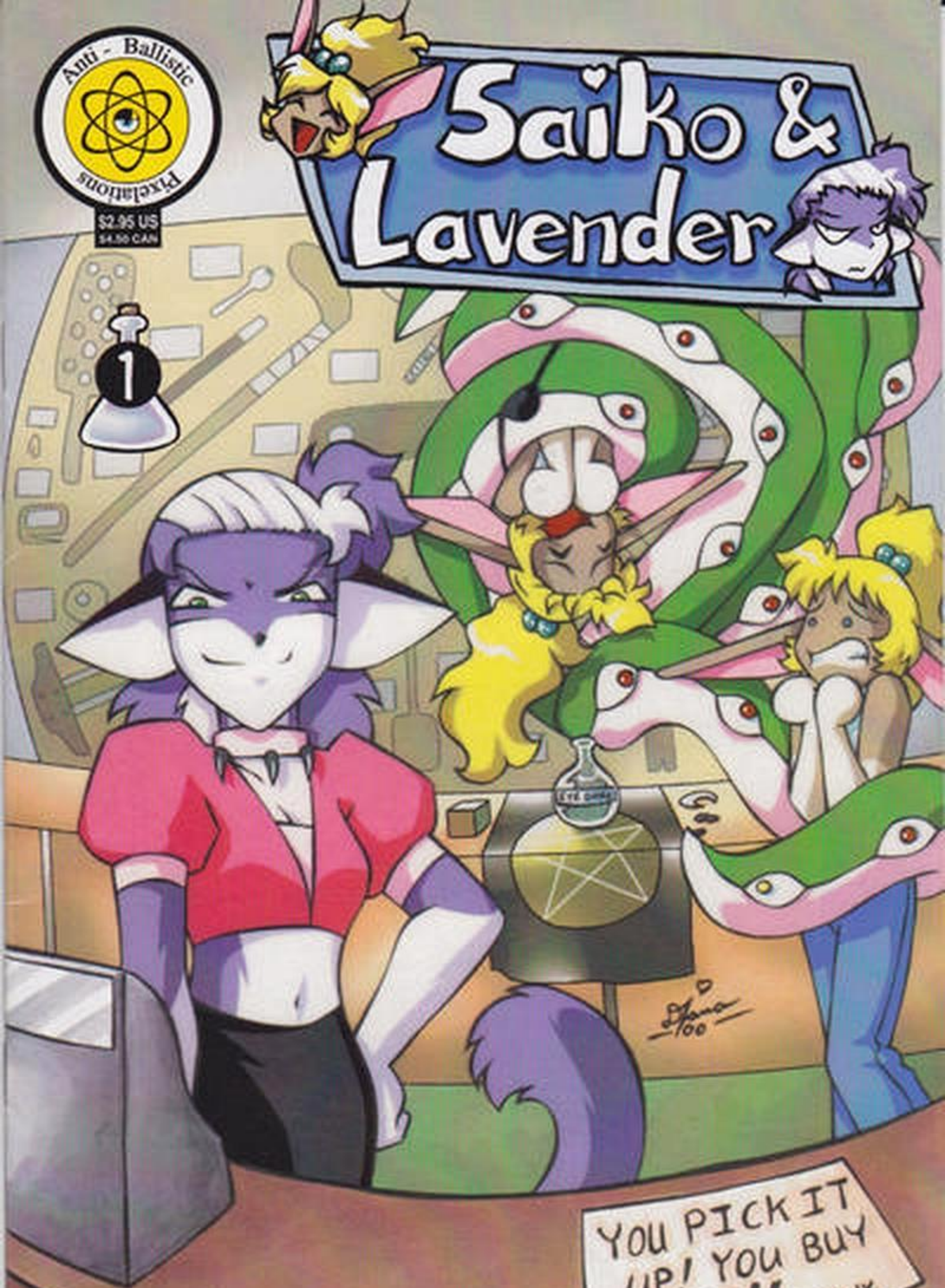




Saiiko & Lavender



YOU PICK IT
UP! YOU BUY
IT!! -THANK

Saiiko & Lavender

1



YOU PICK IT
UP! YOU BUY
IT!! -THANK

NOW BACK TO

K-NOW News.

YOUR DEFINITIVE NEWS SOURCE FOR THE LATEST IN VIOLENT OUTBURSTS AND HUMAN DEPRAVITY HAPPENING RIGHT NOW AS WE SPEAK. PRETTY NEAT, HUH?

... SO HE STARTS YELLING ABOUT HOW I SHOULD PAY HIS HOSPITAL BILLS.

RIDICULOUS, HUH? LIKE THAT'LL GET THE DENTS OUT OF MY CAR'S HOOD. SHEESH.

HONESTLY, PEOPLE THESE DAYS.

LOOK AT THAT HAIR. AND THOSE TEETH. SPARKLING WITH THE SHINE OF A STAR. YUP, WE'RE GOING PLACES BUDDY BOY. MHMM... OH, YEAH... DO IT BABY.



WE'RE ON IN 3, 2, 1...

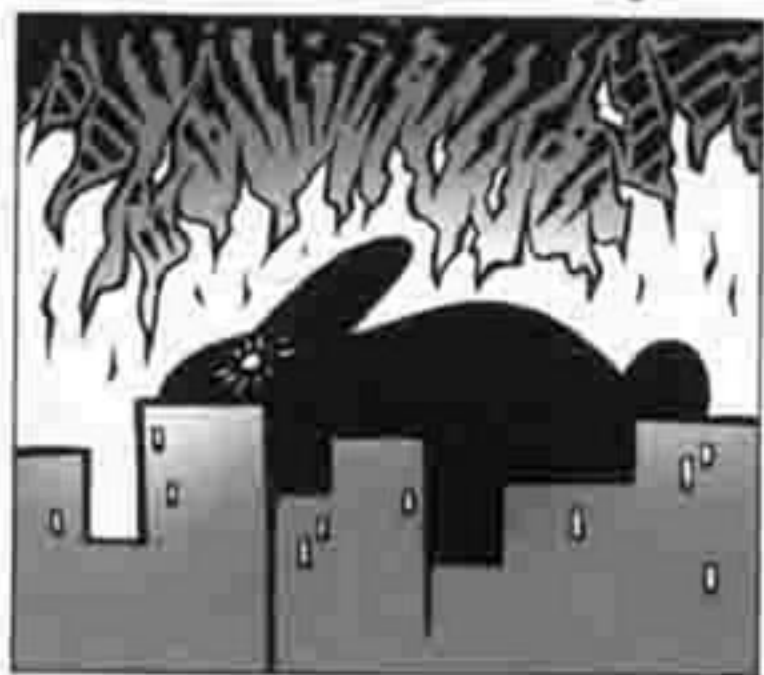


OUR LATE BREAKING DISASTER OF THE HOUR! GIANT FREAKISH MONSTER SPOTTED OFF COAST DESTROYING ALL IN ITS PATH WITH GRAND BOUNDING MOTION! THOUSANDS SLAIN!



ACCORDING TO CITY OFFICIALS, THE MONSTER SEEMS TO BE MAINLY TARGETING PET STORES AND PRODUCE STANDS. POLICE WILL USE EXTREME FORCE AS SOON AS THE DEATH TOLL RISES TO A MORE GENOCIDAL STANDARD AND EXTREME FORCE IS ONCE AGAIN FASHIONABLE.

Graphic Disaster Graphic



NOW FOR THIS EVENINGS EXPOSE' ON SOME OF THE MOST EXCITING ADVANCES IN THE FIELD OF MAGIC, HERE'S *FETCH BUZZWORD*. TAKE IT AWAY FETCH!



THANKS, SUZY!



TODAY I'M STANDING IN FRONT OF THE HEADQUARTERS OF MAGI-CAL. THIS CORPORATION HAS MANAGED TO TAKE THE AGE OLD ART OF MAGIC AND REVOLUTIONIZED IT FOR THE EVERYDAY MODERN MAN AND WOMAN WITH AN AMAZING NEW DO-IT-YOURSELF INVENTION CALLED, "ENCAPSULATED MAGIC."

YES, THIS AMAZING NEW INVENTION PERFORMS THE SAME EVERYDAY MAGICAL TASKS HANDLED BY TRADITIONAL SPELLS AND POTIONS, BUT IS 75% FASTER ACTING, HAS A PLEASING AROMA, AND ACTS AS A POWERFUL SPERMICIDE WHEN TAKEN WITH WATER.



WHILE THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS COMPLAINTS OF SIDE EFFECTS SUCH AS LOSS OF APPETITE, POLTERGEISTS, TRANSMOGRIFICATION, SYPHILLIS, AND THE OCCASIONAL BOLT OF NAZI'S, MAGI-CAL ASSURES THAT THEY'RE BUSY WORKING OUT ALL THE BUGS AND WILL HAVE NEW IMPROVED VERSIONS OF THEIR "E-MAGIC" OUT BY LATER THIS YEAR.



MAGI-CAL HAS BEEN EXPANDING AT AN EXPONENTIAL RATE AND HAS NOW BEGUN OPENING A CHAIN OF SUPER STORES, LIKE THE ONE BEHIND ME HERE, THAT SPECIALIZE IN CARRYING ALL OF MAGI-CAL'S PRODUCTS.



SOME SAY THAT THESE NEW SUPER STORES' SUPERIOR FIRE POWER MAY HAVE A HARMFUL EFFECT ON THE INDEPENDENT MAGIC MARKET, MOSTLY MADE UP OF SMALL BUSINESSES AND UNDERGROUND CULTS. LET'S SEE WHAT THE LOCAL MAGIC MERCHANTS HAVE TO SAY ABOUT THE SITUATION, SHALL WE?

EXCUSE ME, MISS. I'M FETCH BUZZWORD WITH THE K-NOW NEWS TEAM. WOULD YOU HAPPEN TO BE THE OWNER OF THIS ESTABLISHMENT?

YES.

Recoil!!

WOULD YOU MIND ANSWERING A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT THE LEGITIMACY OF YOUR STORE'S CONTINUING EXISTENCE?

UM... SURE.

HOW DO YOU INTEND TO COMPETE WITH E-MAGIC USING YOUR ARCHAIC, BACKWARDLY SATANIC LIKE APPROACHES TO PEOPLES' MAGICAL NEEDS?

WELL, THEY'RE NOT REALLY ANY OF THOSE THINGS. YOU SEE, WE STILL OFFER A GREAT MANY SERVICES THAT E-MAGIC HAS SO FAR BEEN UNABLE TO COVER WITH LESS COMPLICATIONS.

THAT'S NICE. AND WHAT ABOUT THE SMELL?

AND BY CUTTING OUT THE MIDDLE MAN, WE STILL HAVE BETTER PRICES ON JUST ABOUT...

SMELL? WHAT? WHAT SMELL? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

MOVING ON. WHAT DO YOU SAY TO THOSE WHO SAY YOU'RE DINOSAURS DESTINED TO DIE AND BECOME FUEL FOR LATER GENERATIONS?

WELL, WAIT... DO... DO YOU EVEN HEAR THE WORDS COMING OUT OF MY MOUTH? HELLO?

WELL, THERE YOU HAVE IT FOLKS. STRAIGHT FROM THE MOUTH OF THE DINOSAUR. IN WITH THE NEW, OUT WITH THE OLD AS FAST AS POSSIBLE. ANY FINAL WORDS MISS?



YES!



WAGH!!!

BLAG!

WAG!

ZAP!

Super Dramatic Special FX! wheel!

Hello There!

AGGH!! MOMMYKINS!



REMEMBER, THAT'S "LAVENDER'S ALL PURPOSE SPELLS & POTIONS" AT THE CORNER OF SATURN AND D. WE HAVE THE POTION OR SPELL THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU!

NOW, WHERE WERE WE?

AIEEE!

AGG! NO! KEEP AWAY FROM ME! DON'T MUSS MY TOUPEE!!

THANKS FETCH. FASCINATING!



AND NOW FOR THE WEATHER REPORT WITH OUR VERY OWN VIVACIOUSLY PERKY, BAMBI SUNBEAMS.

DON'T JUST SIT THERE! HELP ME!! HELP ME!! AAAGHH! SHE'S TAKEN MY GALLBLADDER! SHE HAS TAKEN MY GALLBLADDER! AAAA! YOU BASTARDS! I HOPE YOU ALL BURN IN HELL!!! AAAA!!





I DON'T THINK SO. THIS GUY WANTS TO SUMMON ONE HUGE CITY CRISPING MONSTER TO COMBAT THE ONES ATTACKING HIS BUSINESS.

OH NO! NOT AFTER LAST TIME. WITH ALL THE CLAWS AND BUTTER AND THAT INANE SINGING. BIG LOBSTERS FREAK ME OUT.

HE SAID HE CALLED THE MAGI-CAL PEOPLE, BUT THEY SCREWED UP. SO IF WE SOLVE THE PROBLEM, WE GET THEIR PAY PLUS OUR NORMAL COMMISSION.

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A black and white comic panel. On the left, a character with a mask and a wide, toothy grin is shown from the chest up. They have long hair and are wearing a dark jacket. On the right, a smaller character with short hair and a surprised expression is shown in a workshop-like setting with tools and a large 'X' in the background. Two speech bubbles are present: one from the masked character and one from the smaller character.

WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SO?
WE'LL SHOW THOSE GUYS
WHAT REAL MAGIC IS!
WHERE DO WE HAVE TO GO?

DOWN TO THE
INDUSTRIAL AREA.
NEAR THE DOCKS.

A black and white comic panel. On the left, a character with a dark mask covering their eyes and a wide, toothy grin is shown from the chest up. They have long, dark hair with a white flower accessory on the right side. They are wearing a dark jacket over a light-colored shirt. Their right hand is raised to their chin. On the right, a smaller character with short, spiky hair and a surprised expression is shown from the waist up. They are wearing a light-colored shirt and holding a rectangular object. The background shows a workshop or industrial area with various tools and equipment. Two speech bubbles are present. The first speech bubble, coming from the masked character, contains the text: "WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SO? WE'LL SHOW THOSE GUYS WHAT REAL MAGIC IS! WHERE DO WE HAVE TO GO?". The second speech bubble, coming from the girl, contains the text: "DOWN TO THE INDUSTRIAL AREA. NEAR THE DOCKS."

WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SO?
WE'LL SHOW THOSE GUYS
WHAT REAL MAGIC IS!
WHERE DO WE HAVE TO GO?

DOWN TO THE
INDUSTRIAL AREA.
NEAR THE DOCKS.

WHAT!

AH!

GRRR!

ZAP! HEY!

SNATCH!

AGG!
THIS IS ALL
THE WAY OUT
OF TOWN!

WHAT!

AH!

GRRR!

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[illegible][illegible]

HURRY!
GRAB ALL THE GEAR!
WHERE ARE MY MONSTER
SUMMONING POTIONS?

I'm Fast mhm

Zip!

Fast!

Heavy!

Zip!

Zip!

YA KNOW...
I COULD USE MY
SUPER SPEED
AND TAKE IT
RIGHT OVER.
SEE?

HURRY!
GRAB ALL THE GEAR!
WHERE ARE MY MONSTER
SUMMONING POTIONS?

I'm Fast mmmhm

Zip! Fast!

Zip!

Heavy!

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I'm Fast mmmh

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Fast!

Hurry!

Zip!

Zip!

Zip!

YA KNOW...
I COULD USE MY
SUPER SPEED
AND TAKE IT
RIGHT OVER.
SEE?

UH-OH! NO WAY!
EVERYTIME I LET YOU
DELIVER SOMETHING YOU
LOSE OR BREAK IT ON
THE WAY THERE.

So I dropped
them. I said I
was sorry.

Hey!
Don't be
mean to
me

Zip!
Zip!
Zip!

IT'S NOT MY FAULT YOUR
LITTLE POTION VIALS CAN'T
STAND TO TRAVEL BEYOND
THE SPEED OF LIGHT.
HMMP!!

click

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THE SPEED OF LIGHT.
HMMP!!

click

DOES THAT MEAN
WE GET TO USE...
THE CAR?

RGGG.
UNFORTUNATELY, YES.
BUT YOU HAVE TO WATCH
THE STORE WHILE I GO
TAKE CARE OF THIS.

Bouncy
Bouncy

I DON'T WANNA
WATCH THE STORE!
IT'S SO BORING
HERE ALL BY MYSELF!

I KNOW!
I CAN WATCH
THE STORE AND
GO WITH YOU,
LOOKY!

I'M
REAL FAST
REMEMBER.
MHMM.

AAH! NO!
Burning!

YAY!! THE CAR!
WE GET TO
GO IN THE CAR!
LAVENDER, YOU'RE
THE GREATEST!

I HATE WHEN YOU DO THAT.
OKAY, YOU CAN GO AND...
UM, WATCH THE STORE.

SPACE!
I THOUGHT WE
TALKED ABOUT SPACE!
NOW GET OFF ME BEFORE
I TURN YOUR EARS INTO
WINGS OR SOMETHING.

NO! THEY TRY TO
FLY AWAY AND IT
PULLS ON MY HEAD
AND REALLY HURTS.

DANGER

WARNING

YOU'RE
SO MEAN...
BUT I LIKE IT.

TRY AND
CONTROL
YOURSELF.

GOOD. THEN WE HAVE
AN UNDERSTANDING.
SPACE IS A GOOD THING.

I'LL...
I'LL TRY.





At The Same Time...

BEAT

THIS WAY TO IDENTITY



UH-OH.

TIME FOR...

ALIENS!

GREETINGS SIMPLE BEING.
WE'RE TROOP 836 OF THE
SPACE SCOUTS.
DO YOU HAVE A
MOMENT?

SURE. WOULD
YOU LIKE TO TRY
A SAMPLE OF
PURE EVIL™ TODAY?
IT'S ON SALE.
NO ONE WANTS IT.

WE'RE GOING FOR
THE COVETED
CLONE BADGE.
WITHOUT IT, WE'LL
BE OUTCASTS!

OUTCASTS ARE
DEVOLVED!

WE HAVE
ENOUGH. THANKS.
WE'RE HERE ON A
SPECIAL MISSION
AND NEED A
VOLLINTEER.

AND I HAVE THE
CLEANSING OF
ALL LIFE BADGE.

I'D LOVE TO
HELP YOU,
BUT I'M
SUPPOSED
TO MIND
THE
STORE.

WORRY
WORRY
WORRY

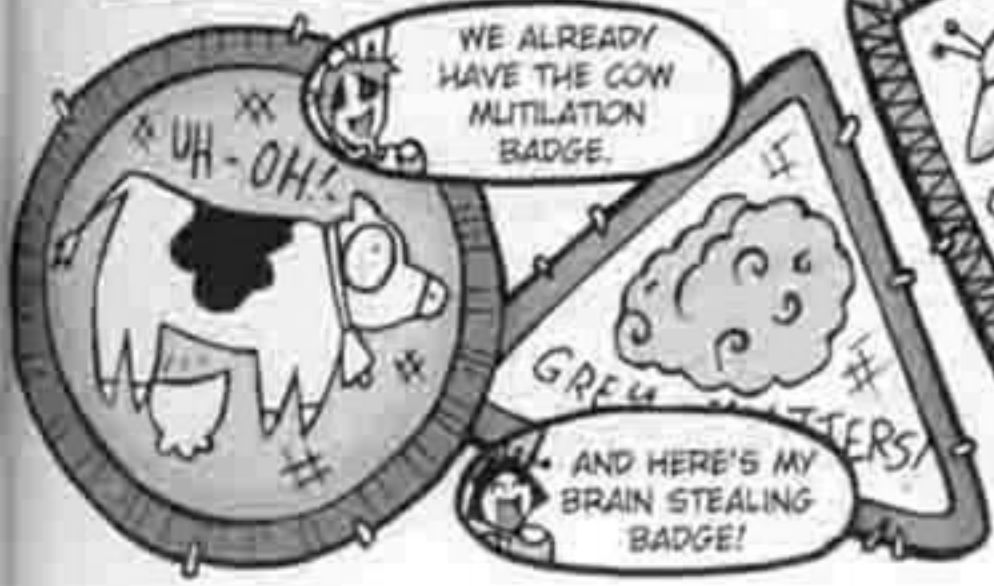
GERMS
GERMS!

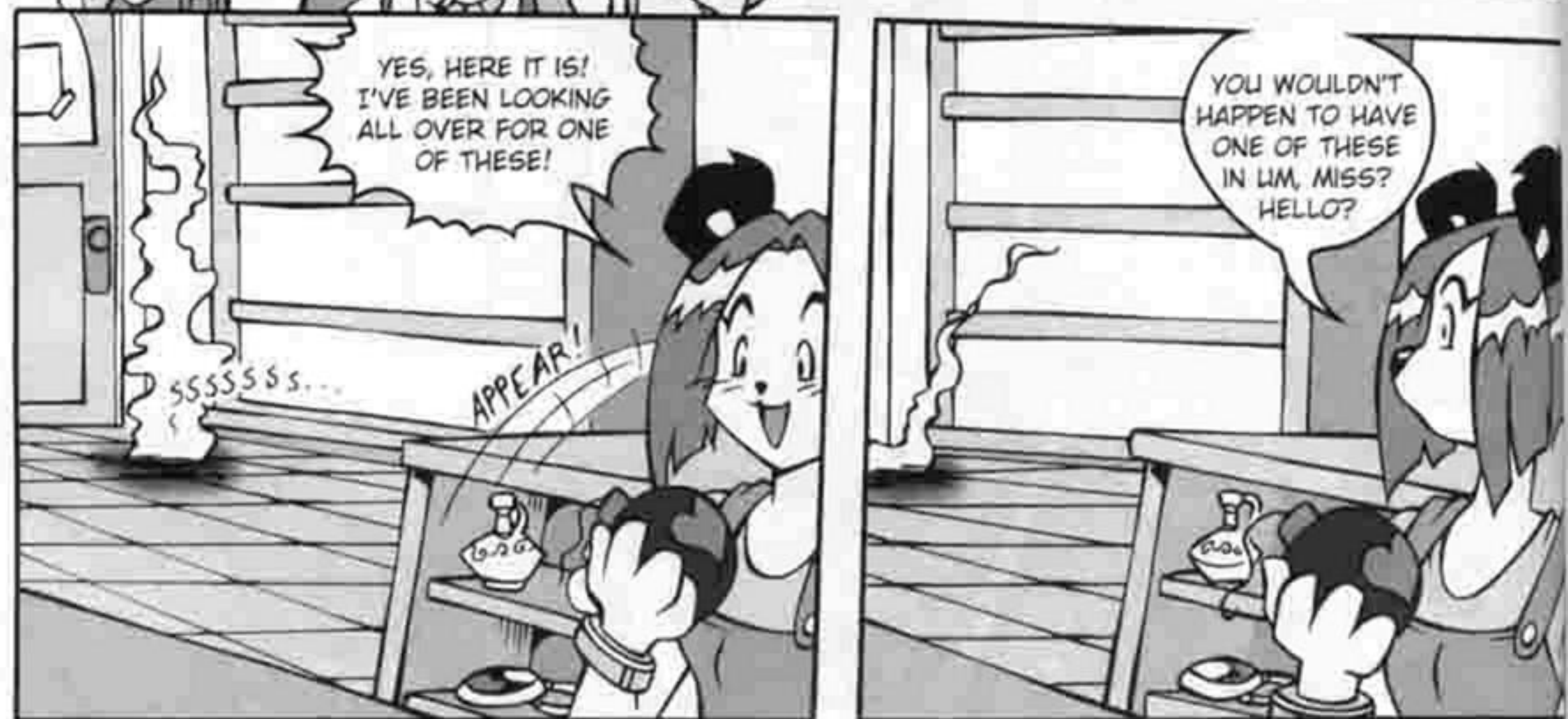
WE ALREADY
HAVE THE COW
MUTILATION
BADGE.

AND HERE'S MY
BRAIN STEALING
BADGE!

WIPE YOUR FUTURE
CLEAN OF
YOUR PAST!

ACCOMPLISHED WITH SIX 40WATT BULBS! WOW!





OKAY, CMON', CMON' WE'VE GOT A SCHEDULE TO KEEP.

PUT HER DOWN!
PUT HER DOWN!

BUT SHE'S SO CUTE!

GERMS!
GERMS!

IN YA GO!

POW!

TRIP!

IS THIS GONNA HURT?
I DON'T KNOW IF MY
INSURANCE COVERS
CLONING ACCIDENTS.

EEEEK!

OH, NOT TO WORRY.
WE'VE BEEN WORKING
THIS OUT FOR MONTHS
NOW AND I THINK WE'VE
BEEN ABLE TO ELIMINATE
ALL THE BUGS IN THE
PROCESS. YOU'LL
BE FINE.

YEAH. OR YOU'LL
BECOME A THIN
CLEAR PUDDING.

OR A BIG POINTY
BEETLE THING.

ONE OF THE
TWO. NEVER
CAN TELL.

GRR!
-SCARY!

OH, OKAY.
JUS' CHECKIN'

ANYWHOOSIES,
ONWARD! INTO
DISCOVERY!

KA-
CHUNK!

BAZAT!

SOUNDS
SAFE~

LET'S SEE HOW THE CLONE TURNED

OH... **AAAAAAAGGG!!**



I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG! IT BROKE ON ITS OWN.

I SWEAR.

THAT'S NOT RIGHT. WHAT HAPPENED? DID SHE MOVE OR SOMETHING?



WAVE! HI!-

WHEW! AA

CLITE

I DIDN'T SEE HER MOVE, BUT SHE DOES SEEM TO MOVE RATHER FAST.



DID YOU MOVE?

YEAH. I'M IN A CAR RIGHT NOW. IT'S MOVING.

SUSPECT!



LIM, NO. THIS IS A SPACE SHIP. IT'S LIKE A CAR, BUT IN SPACE.

ARE YOU HEARING THIS?



I'M IN A CAR RIGHT NOW. IT HAS AN ANTENNA BALL.

RRG!

HMM... PERHAPS SHE CAN BE MANY PLACES AT ONCE. MAYBE WE SHOULD JUST SET IT TO USE AS MUCH ENERGY AS IT NEEDS TO CALCULATE FOR HER MOVEMENTS. I MEAN, HOW MANY PLACES CAN SHE POSSIBLY BE?



SERIOUS LOOK

ARE YOU SURE THAT'S SUCH A GOOD IDEA?

CUTE!

ZIP

CUTE!

ZIP

CUTE!

ZIP

CUTE!

ZIP



LOOK! WE HAVE TO BE BACK FOR DINNER IN TWENTY MINUTES OR WE'LL BE IN BIG TROUBLE! DO YOU WANT TO SPEND THE NIGHT IN THE COLD OF SPACE AGAIN?

HUH? HUH?!

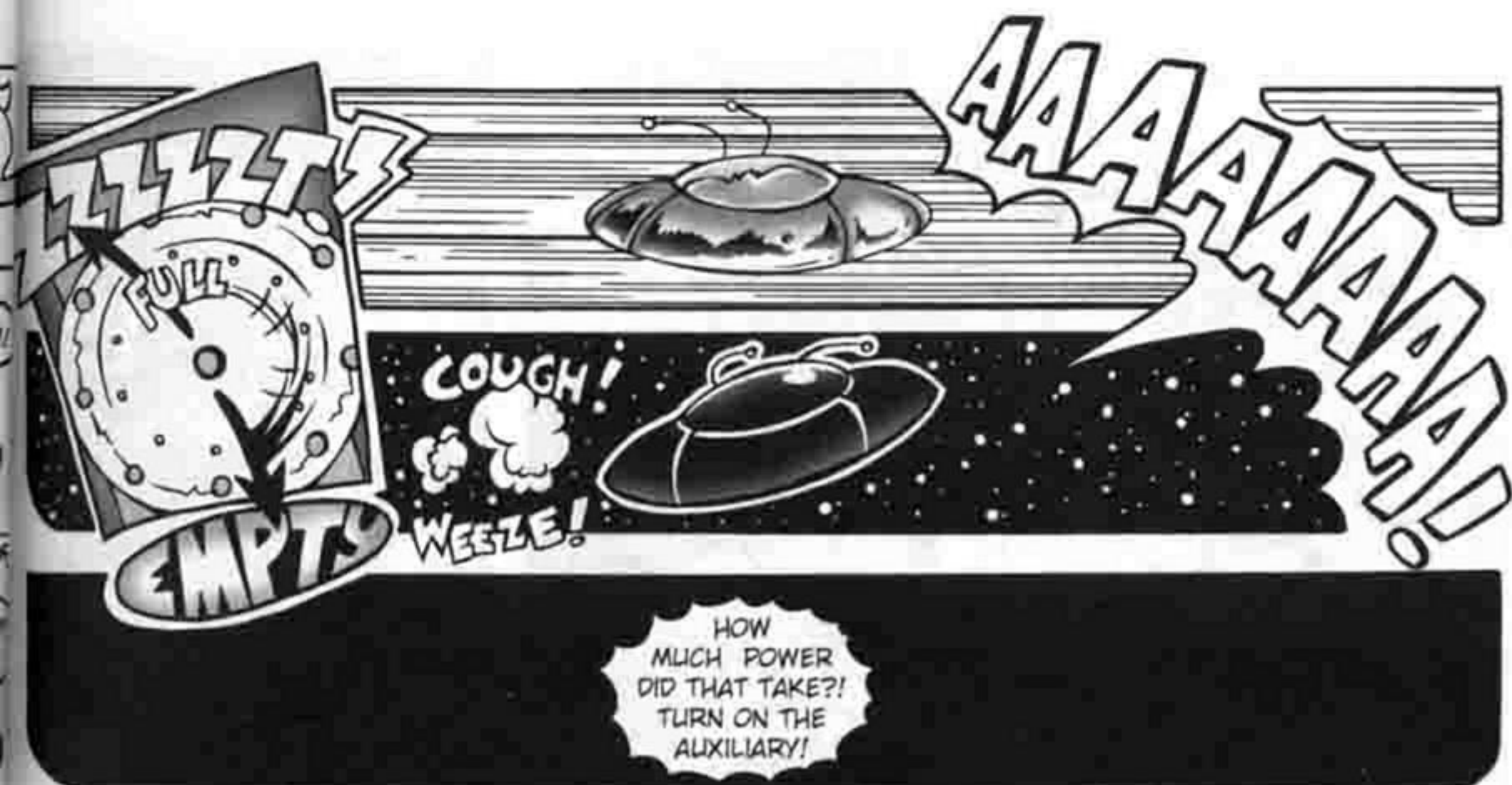


JEEZE, ALRIGHT. YA DON'T HAVE TO GET SNIPPY.

NEAT.

B-AP-OT! AGAIN

I feel so used... again.





SILENT
SPACE
SCREAMY!







YEE!

I WET 'EM!

STANLEY!

YUP, CULTURED WITH MY VERY OWN SPECIAL BLEND OF HERBS AND SPICES, STANLEY HERE IS ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL QUADRAPEDS OF PURE DESTRUCTION EVER CREATED.



BUT, UM, WHAT IS HE? SOME KIND OF BADGER, IGUANA THING?

LOOKS MORE LIKE AN OPOSSUM, ANT EATER, GECKO THING.

WELL, ACTUALLY HE'S A... A... LEAVE STANLEY ALONE! LIKE YOUR MONSTER ISN'T A COMPLETE FREAK!



YEAH. YOU'RE RIGHT.

SORRY.



That doesn't look good.

NOW GO STANLEY, DESTROY THEM! MAKE MOMMA PROUD!

SNARF



Stop your evil! I will use feet of force!

Stop?! Fear my plethora of points!

No! Stop! We shouldn't be fighting each other!



We're animals. It is people we should fight. they enslave us! They subject us to horrible tests! They even baste and eat some of us with mint jelly! That's just wrong!

I was once a mere meadow rabbit till I was mutated by evil people testing a new pet food made completely from reconstituted industrial toxic waste. Now I have no choice but to destroy to survive.



Succulent bastard!

That's right. Come sit on the lap of death and purr oh twisted cretin!

Albuquerque.

Cease being! Big speech make heads hurt. Feel agony of gastric cacti-cooler!

Owie! I be melty!





Wanna see god?!

Not really!
I haven't packed!



Augk???! This is no ordinary bubble for which to pop with pointy things!



NO! This cannot be popped even by a thousand pointy things tied together! Save meeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee!!!



TO BE CONTINUED...